



HUNTING TRAILS

CARTRIDGES & ARROWS



Newsletter for the Missouri Department of Conservation's

Hunter Education, Bowhunter Education, & Shooting Range Programs

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"Over 1 Million Served"

January -- April 2012

2012 A Year Of Celebrations



1987 - 2012

25 Years of Mandatory Hunter Education.



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As we move forward in 2012, those of us so closely tied to conservation, hunting, hunter education and shooting ranges find ourselves seeing and being a part of several celebrations. Imagine being one of those far sighted individuals who envisioned and helped bring about the passage of the Pittman-Robertson Act 75 years ago, now called the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program. The controversy of a nation-wide tax on long-guns and ammunition to restore the damages and abuses of our nation's wildlife and habitat while still in the midst of the "Great Depression." It must have taken those of strong principle and convictions to bring about something that was probably so controversial at the time.

Of course we celebrate our own state's fight, at the same time in our history, by visionaries and civilian conservationists to move from a political Game and Fish Department to create the world's first apolitical, science-based conservation agency with exclusive authority over forests, fish and wildlife, by constitutional amendment "The Missouri Department of Conservation." Working so hard state-wide to change minds and long held paradigms and gain support for an overwhelming vote of the public. We achieved something so unique at its time that we are still looked upon today with envy by others. Quoting *The First Fifty Years*, "...they launched a chain of events that no other state had ever done before or since. It was a conservation milestone."

In 1972, another vision was launched. With an amendment to the Pittman-Robertson Act to add its funding to support hunting education and shooting ranges to recruit, train, and retain hunters, MDC launched its official Shooting Range Development Program. This was not the first movement toward shooting ranges within MDC. For several years prior to the Pittman-Robertson Amendment both Wildlife and Forestry Divisions in MDC recognized the need for shooting facilities on Department-owned areas to accommodate a growing public interest. Places to shoot were set aside on state forests and upland game areas. Development of an archery range facility on the August A. Busch Memorial Wildlife Area was completed in 1952. But, in 1972 it became a formal program and grew to its current position as a leader in the nation with over 69 conservation areas around the state with multiple unstaffed ranges, five staffed Shooting Range and Outdoor Education Centers, 12 cooperative ranges, and funds and equipment grants to ranges around the state.

Then in 1987, a major transformation began in hunting education. With national studies and surveys showing that the general public and landowners had many negative attitudes about hunters and hunting, along with a continuing high number of hunting related incidents, a nation-wide movement began to better educate hunters and improve their reputation and standing. To this end Missouri Conservation Commission approved the change from the voluntary

Hunter Safety Program to the Hunter Education Program and requirement for mandatory Hunter Education Certification in Missouri. This program was to develop and certify hunters who are among other things, safe with firearms in the field and at home, respectful of other people and property, law-abiding, and aware of the importance of hunting as a management tool for the resources of the state.

Yes, many celebrations will cover history that affects us today. As we move forward throughout this year remember and pass along a little of our rich history and proud traditions to those with whom we come in contact with. We have a great history to highlight and promote to all, along with historic achievements created by each link in the chain.



Coordinator's Corner

Hunter Education & Range Coordinator
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2012, what happened to 2011? Years always seem to slip by us more rapidly as we move through the years, so too was 2011. During the year we had some lows with the loss of several of our friends and co-instructors, major surgeries needed for others, and the loss of a couple of homes to fire. Yet, we had some highs during this year, and it turned out to be another banner year.

This last year, regions received several equipment items for instructors. these included test scoring machines that allowed tests to be graded in just a second or two, multi-media projectors that do not require a computer to operate, have built in speakers, dvd player, and the ability to show presentations in slide show from just flash drive. Of course some instructors and staff were able to work out details with conservation groups, just as we teach in chapter one, and got funding for the orange hunter education classroom training firearm sets for their counties. With our new Division Chief Mike Huffman in place O&E was able to initiate reviews of each program within the division and Hunter Education and Ranges started this process off.

Finally, the Hunter Education and Range Program Review Committee completed its review and submitted its final report. Now, it will go to Administration to review and make decisions on their recommendations this year. So, as we stated during the Instructor Summit in 2010, the process is moving.

As of the writing of this letter, our current 2011 numbers for HE and BHE certified students are 27,641 HE students in 857 classes, 637 BHE students in 31 classes. These numbers are coming from initial raw data and still have to be rechecked, plus several classes have not been submitted by instructors for OSS approval and transfer into the system.

2012 looks to be another great year. Already we have purchased \$60,000 in Mossberg Classroom Gun Kits that are ready to be distributed to the regions. Also, we are hosting the 40th Annual IHEA Conference here in Kansas City, Missouri starting the end of May. We hope to get in the next budget to purchase more classroom equipment in July and move forward on Administration guidance from the program review. We also hope to continue our push to improve our range program. So hang in there and a big thanks for your outstanding efforts in 2011 and hopes for a wonderful 2012.

40th International Hunter Education Conference Comes to Missouri

For the third time in its 40 year history, the International Hunter Education Association Conference comes to Missouri. Previously, held in St. Louis and Springfield, this time Kansas City will be the showcase to Hunter Education Administrators, Instructors, and manufactures from around the world.

The conference will be held at the prestigious InterContinental Kansas City at the Plaza (<http://www.kansascityic.com/>). But, if it becomes filled, or price is an issue, there are over 30 other hotels within just a few minutes of the venue. The conference opens May 29, 2012 and ends

with a banquet and auction on June 2, 2012. Throughout the conference there will be numerous presentations on many topics related to hunter education, volunteer management, classroom management, recruiting hunters, diversity, and many others.

Some of the confirmations for presentations are David Oakes, Donny Adair, former Miss Utah Jenny Bezzant, Glen Mayhew, Mark Duda, Zac Cooper, and Larry Potterfield just to name a few. On the range field trip to the Lake City Shooting Range and Outdoor Education Center there will be several demonstrations and hands-on activities and a real treat with a shooting exhibition by Mr. Tom Knapp, world renowned shooting star. For spouses and guests not interested in the range field trip, there will be a field trip visiting various sites in Kansas City to include shopping and lunch.

This is a unique experience not only in presentations of great value, but the opportunity to meet and discuss with other instructors from around the US and the world. This conference does not come often to Missouri, so please try to take advantage of this extraordinary occasion.

For more information, registration, agendas, biographies, other information and updates visit web site <http://www.ihea.com/news-and-events/annual-conferences.php>



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

40th Annual IHEA Conference
May 29–June 2 • www.ihea.com

SHOW-ME THE WAY
2012 • KANSAS CITY, MO

INTERNATIONAL HUNTER EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
IHEA
Responsible Hunting
40 YEARS

75 YEARS

75 YEARS

Missouri Hunting Heritage Federation (MHHF)

By Allan Hoover, MHHF Executive Director



Federation members conducted nine events in 2011 introducing youth and their families to an outdoor way of life featuring hunting and the shooting sports.



The clinic schedule began in March and continued through December. Shotgun hunts for chukar, turkey and waterfowl, rifle hunts for deer, and an archery hunt for deer/turkey were included. Participants' stories of their first hunt experiences are posted on the Comments Page of the MHHF web site www.mhhf.us.

Directors approved the MHHF Clinic Policy Manual as the official blueprint for the clinic model. Manuals are provided to Federation Members as a step-by-step guide to ensure consistency in conducting clinics throughout Missouri.



A first annual "Shoot for the Future" sporting clays fun shoot proved successful as a fundraiser and in providing a fantastic day on the range at the Saddle & Sirloin Club in Kansas City. Participants enjoyed a 50 target-12 station course, buffet lunch, prizes and great weather. Prizes were awarded for the top two scores in three categories: Individual, Two-Shooter Team and Youth. Event sponsors attended a cocktail reception at the Kansas City Club prior to the shoot. A complete list of sponsors is included in a short video posted on the MHHF facebook page.



Father and son (Vince and Brandon) winners of an MHHF raffle fundraiser experienced their first Wyoming antelope hunts this fall. The prize package included a three-day hunt for one youth plus one adult at the historic Carey/Bixby Ranch near Glenrock, WY plus lodging, meals and transportation. MHHF President Lee Vogel and Executive Director Allan Hoover accompanied the raffle winners on the trip. Brandon's (12) story of his hunt is also posted on the MHHF web site.

The MHHF events calendar includes the following:

- January 14-15: Trapper Education Clinic in Cass County
- January 29: 2012 MHHF Annual Meeting & Banquet at Independence Bass Pro
- February 13: Nature Quest Presentation at Raymore Parks & Rec.
- February 24-26: MHHF Booth at KC-SCI Hunter's Expo
- March 2-4: Hunter Education Clinic/chukar hunt at Hedge Hollow Ranch

For complete information regarding MHHF Clinics and starting a new chapter in your area, contact Allan Hoover at 816.392.5549 or allan@mhhf.us.

Hunting provides the hunter with a place to retreat to be alone and to find peace with self. It also provides the opportunity for significant relationships through partner and group hunting. No other male competitive team activity allows for both needs to be met as all others are built upon high level, total involved energy being place in the competition of the action. Peace for one's self does not exist. Hunting is unique. It is an activity that provides a place for self-fulfillment and relating. – Bob Norton, Ph.D. "The Hunter"



Kansas City Region Sedalia/Clinton District

Outdoor Skills Specialist
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Greetings from Sedalia and Clinton

First of all I want to thank everyone for their calls, cards and emails of support after the house fire. We were blessed that none of the family were physically affected, (including dogs and goats) and that all we lost were material things. Special thanks to the K.C .crew who pitched in and helped with some of the cleanup. I am happy to report that everything is back to normal chaos.

I hope all of you have had an opportunity to practice what we preach. The opportunity to hunt only stays around for a while and we need to make sure we take advantage of it. It seems like every time I get to hunt, I learn or experience something that I can share in classes and clinics. This year was the first time that I was able to hunt with all three of my sons. The "Miller" party of four, was in the marsh several times, and I can say it was the most fun I have had in years. It seems like Dad was always the last one not done, and you can imagine what it is like if I happened to miss. Like the Toby Keith song says, "She thinks we're just fishn". Well, we weren't just hunting.



Thanks to all of you who helped with the youth hunts and clinics that we had this fall. Because of your efforts many kids got to experience the thrill of the hunt for the first time, whether they were able harvest or not.

The HED instructor banquet will be February 4th in Clinton. Invitations will go out around Christmas, so if you don't see one, call the Clinton office to RSVP. Hope to see you there

As Always, Hunt Safe



Kansas City Region, KC Metro District

Outdoor Skills Specialist
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Wow, what a busy Fall it was! With the demand for Hunter Education high and the number of instructors low, fall of 2011 was extremely busy and productive. We completed 49 HED courses from August through November and certified 1,683 students. A job very well done!

Many of you participated in Hunter recruitment efforts as well. You worked with youth as guides and mentors at youth hunts throughout the area, including squirrel hunting, waterfowl hunting, turkey hunting, deer hunting and trapping. You also worked with youth on shooting sports and manned several booths. You also worked with adults, young and old, encouraging them to participate in shooting sports and hunting.

Just as valuable, many of you spent time yourself participating in the outdoor endeavors you love so much! I always try to stress how important it is that we take time to practice what we teach and what we enjoy doing the most, hunting and fishing and trapping and shooting and spending time in the woods with our own sons and daughters, wives and husbands, significant others, fathers, mothers, grandparents, siblings, and friends! I have heard many hunting stories and look forward to the rest over the next months as we relive the memories we have made and the ones that got away.

Most importantly there are still months to enjoy afield till the sun climbs a little higher in the sky and the temperatures warm and turn our thoughts to fishing! That's what we love about Missouri, there is always something to do in the great outdoors. Get out there and enjoy it!!

Thanks for all you do to help others learn to love the outdoors and to be able to enjoy them also.

The world is not only watching, it is listening too....Other beings...do not mind being killed and eaten as food, but they expect us to say please, and thank you, and they hate to see themselves wasted.—Gary Snyder, "The Practice of the Wild"



Southwest Region

Outdoor Skills Specialists

Jean Mayer - Cedar, Barton, Dade, Jasper, Lawrence, Newton, Barry and McDonald counties
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Greg Collier - Hickory, Polk, Dallas, Laclede, Greene, Webster, Christian, Stone and Taney counties
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The fall hunting season was quite successful in the SW Region. Once again our region's Hunter Ed training was in the forefront with 222 instructors conducting 117 classes to certify 3,280 students. Keep up the good work you are doing as instructors! We're happy to report there were no hunting incidents for our Region. This is a direct reflection on the quality of the classes you all conduct. You should feel very proud. We definitely consider ourselves fortunate to have such fine caliber instructors in our region.

The fall deer season was also successful with 33,976 deer harvested in SW Missouri during the youth, archery and firearms seasons as of November 28. Totals for each county are as follows:

Youth Season (EARLY)

Barry	186	Laclede	224
Barton	122	Lawrence	109
Cedar	162	McDonald	153
Christian	104	Newton	144
Dade	78	Polk	138
Dallas	160	Stone	126
Greene	101	Taney	144
Hickory	153	Webster	194
Jasper	134		

Statewide High Counties:

Osage	369
Franklin	330
Howell	316

Archery Season (INCOMPLETE)

Barry	493	Laclede	601
Barton	390	Lawrence	382
Cedar	347	McDonald	412
Christian	423	Newton	522
Dade	212	Polk	381
Dallas	463	Stone	283
Greene	563	Taney	470
Hickory	394	Webster	473
Jasper	534		

Statewide High Counties:

Jefferson	911
Franklin	902
Macon	856

Firearms End of Season

Barry	1447	Laclede	2130
Barton	1337	Lawrence	1088
Cedar	1691	McDonald	1103
Christian	1103	Newton	1387
Dade	1063	Polk	1537
Dallas	1714	Stone	993
Greene	1230	Taney	1434
Hickory	1848	Webster	1539
Jasper	1557		

Statewide High Counties:

Howell	3483
Macon	3393
Callaway	3283

We are pleased to introduce three new Conservation Agents to our Region: Daniel Shores, Barry County; Dan Vanderhoef, Barry County and Doug West, Dade County. All three Agents were born and raised in SW Missouri. In addition, Agents Shores and West were both SW Region Protection volunteers while Agent Vanderhoef was a Resource Assistant at the Andy Dalton Shooting Range.

As you plan your Hunter Ed classes, remember that you must contact your Agent for your supplies. Please keep in mind that when you set your class up online, you need to add your Agent as an instructor as well as send them an e-mail notification of your upcoming class. This needs to be done as soon as you set your class. This procedure has a two-fold benefit: Your Agent will receive plenty of notice for getting your supplies to you while offering an invitation to attend your class. Here is a list of agents and their phone numbers:

Akin, Dan	Stone (Crane)	417-331-2674
Austin, Jerry	Webster (Marshfield)	417-839-0258
Barnes, Andrew	Lawrence (Mt. Vernon)	417-461-4586
Boyd, Brian	Polk (Bolivar)	417-777-1035
Bracken, Adam	Jasper (Webb City)	417-385-8224
Brown, Scott	Barton (Lamar)	417-682-4604
Carr, Willie	Jasper (Carthage)	417-763-5106
Creed, Mark	Greene (Springfield)	417-830-8266
Farwell, Derek	Cedar (Stockton)	417-830-6162
Fronterhouse, Quenten	Taney (Branson)	417-294-5543
Harris, Jeff	Christian (Nixa)	417-880-4952
Hitchings, Matthew	Dallas (Buffalo)	417-733-3876
Hutton, Walter	Laclede (Lebanon)	417-718-1111
Jewell, Jarrad	Dallas (Buffalo)	417-733-0286
Milligan, Jarad	Laclede (Lebanon)	417-288-8744
Nofsinger, Buck	Taney (Forsyth)	417-546-0833
Ohrenberg, Shannon	Greene, (Springfield)	417-766-7380
Pratt, Tim	Hickory (Hermitage)	417-718-1114
Shores, Daniel	Barry (Monett)	417-229-4706
Strader, S. Adam	McDonald (Anderson)	417-669-2791

Swem, Susan	Dade, Polk (Bolivar)	417-326-9539
Terhune, Mike	Cedar (Stockton)	417-327-5378
Vader, Robert	Hickory (Hermitage)	417-718-1113
Vanderhoef, Dan	Barry (Cassville)	417-342-5579
West, Doug	Dade (Lockwood)	417-955-2389
Wilkinson, Jerid	Newton (Neosho)	417-291-7819

Be sure to mark your calendar now for January 20 and January 24! Those are the dates for the 2011 Southwest Region Hunter Education Volunteer Banquets. The location for the January 20th event will be the Oasis Convention Center, Springfield and the January 24th event will be held at the Butcher Block in Joplin. You are invited to attend whichever event works best for your schedule. Last year was a great time and this year will include more of the same--eating and awards! Our banquets are a great time for meeting our new instructors while catching up with your longtime friends. Please plan now to attend and keep in mind that families are welcome.

Upcoming events and volunteer opportunities:

- January 20 and 24- Instructor appreciation banquets, Springfield and Joplin respectively. Contact Barb Amass to register. 417/895-6880 x 1604 or Barbara.Amass@mdc.mo.gov
- February 16 – Volunteer Hunter Education Instructor Training – This training is for new volunteers and will be held at the Southwest Regional MDC Office. If you know of someone wanting to become certified as a volunteer instructor, please have them contact Greg Collier at Greg.Collier@mdc.mo.gov The deadline for registration is February 3rd.
- March 2 and 3- MO National Archery in the Schools Program (MONASP) Regional Tournament, Willard. Contact instructor Curtis Bishop to assist. 417/678-3630 or cbishop@hdnet.k12.mo.us
- March 24- MONASP State Tournament, Warrensburg. Contact Kevin Lohraff to assist. Kevin.Lohraff@mdc.mo.gov
- April 21- Basic Archery Instructor training, MSSU. Contact Jean Mayer to assist or to be trained. 417/895-6880 x 1642 or Jean.Mayer@mdc.mo.gov
- April 18- Webb City HS fishing clinic, Chesapeake Aquatic Resource Pond. Contact Jean Mayer to assist
- April 28- State HS Trap Shoot, Linn Creek. Contact Jean Mayer to assist.
- May 29 through June 2- IHEA conference, Kansas City.
- June 19- Discover Nature Family Intro. to Archery, Walter Woods CA. Contact Jean Mayer to assist.



St. Louis Region

Outdoor Skills Specialists (to left in order top to bottom)

Scott Sarantakis - Lincoln, St. Charles, & Warren counties
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Dennis Cooke - St. Louis City & St. Louis County
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Conrad Mallady - Crawford, Franklin, Jefferson, & Washington counties
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As I write this newsletter I am sitting in the office thinking of some of the exciting hunts I have had so far this season. I have not been able to harvest a deer as of yet, but still have some time to fill my freezer before the season ends. All of you are important parts of our Hunter Education team in the St. Louis Region and I hope that you find some time during the “off season” to enjoy all the things that you love especially your families, friends, and the Missouri outdoors.

Below are some of the highlights that we have accomplished during 2011:

- 160 Hunter Education classes
- 8 Online Hunter Education field days
- 9 Bow Hunter Education classes
- 2 youth dove clinics and hunts
- 3 youth deer clinics and hunts

Missouri Hunter Education Instructors are some of the best in the country and their dedication to the program and their communities has always been commendable to say the least. This fall we had several gaps that needed to be filled and you all came through and did what had to be done without any hesitation. Not a surprise, but it sure was appreciated.

Following are just some examples of instructors traveling out of their teaching area to help others needing assistance. Bob Triphahn regularly teaches in Sullivan and in his hometown of St. Clair. When help was needed for a class in Potosi, Bob traveled a long way from home to help the new

Conservation Agent, Derek Warnke. Bob has also made himself available to help the Crawford County agent when needed.

Kevin Dixon took on the extra responsibilities of being the Chief Instructor for the Online Field Day classes held in Union. Kevin found himself short-handed for his class this fall and put out a call for help. Floyd Bohler and Dennis Long came to the rescue and helped Kevin with the class. Kevin, likewise, traveled to Floyd's territory to help with his field day.

Tony Legg put on two courses at a new facility in New Haven. Tony needed help with the two courses, one of which was on the weekend prior to the regular firearms deer season. This was the weekend of the first youth deer season and a very desirable weekend for bow hunters. Even at that Tony, received plenty of assistance from instructors responding to the call for help. A special thanks is in order for those instructors helping Tony with the new classes: Rick Aholt, Len Berron, Floyd Bohler, Kevin Dixon, Pete Gerwitz, Todd Meyer, Bob Triphahn, Doug Schmidt, and Larry Lindsey.

These are just a few examples of the great group of instructors we are blessed to have and their willingness to help wherever needed. The above instructors are just representatives of an extraordinary group--made up of individuals who have a great work ethic, are dependable and have the highest degree of integrity. Not just anyone can (or will) do what you do. Thanks for a great 2011 season!

Just as a reminder that the St. Louis Region HED Awards banquet is scheduled for January 13 at the Holiday Inn Six Flags. By the time you receive this you should have received your invitation but if not, call your OSS for more details.



Southeast Region

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I certainly hope everyone had a safe and successful fall hunting season, and that the holiday season has been kind to you as well. Looking at the last year's numbers, the Southeast Hunter Education Volunteers and staff were incredibly busy and last year was no exception. Thanks to the hard work of our volunteer instructors, staff and area teachers there were 63 classes held in Southeast Region with roughly 2,800 students. Hundreds of students participated in these courses and many of them went on to experience hunting for the first

time. It is through your hard work and diligence that this was possible and I thank you.

Personally, many of you know that this has been an incredibly difficult year for our family. My father passed away on the night of last year's Hunter Education banquet. I really appreciated the efforts of our agents to pick up the banquet with two hour's notice. This summer, Jonathan, our 6 year old son, was hospitalized four times and then had two major surgeries during November. All is well with the family, but I can't tell you how much I am looking forward to 2012! What better way to kick off the new year than having great friends to celebrate with.

I have had to move the banquet out one week, so mark your calendar for Saturday, January 21st. MDC will host our awards banquet at the Jackson Missouri Extension Office Lower Level banquet room from 6-9pm. Trivia starts at 6 p.m. and dinner will begin at 6:30. Branding Iron BBQ will cater a delicious rib dinner so make sure you don't miss it.

Of course, we also will have our conservation trivia challenge which has become one of my favorite activities of the year! In fact, just to see if you read this newsletter, here is the answer to one of the questions: How many deer were reported as being killed on the opening weekend of the fall firearms deer season in the Southeast Region? The answer is 7,789. Let's see how many of our instructors dig that bit of information out of their wallet during the trivia.

If you have any door prizes you could donate to our great cause, please let me know by January 12. Your efforts are greatly appreciated in making the trivia challenge such fun for everyone.

To add a new flavor to our trivia challenge, Jake Hindman will be our special guest testing your skills at identifying wildlife and bird calls. Just a word of warning, you might want to know what a yellow billed cuckoo sounds like!

If you haven't received your invitation, please call the regional office at 573-290-5730. You must RSVP by January 12. See you on the 21st!



Central Region

Outdoor Skills Specialist
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Hunter Education Instructors Appreciation & Awards Banquet

On Tuesday February 21, 2012 6pm to 9pm, we will once again meet for our annual Instructor Appreciation and Awards Banquet. We are switching locations to better accommodate our large group. We will meet at the University of Missouri Bradford Research & Extension Center, located at 4968 Rangeline Rd in Columbia. This event gives us a chance to

recognize the service and hard work of volunteer and staff instructors. Please plan to bring the whole family and join us for an exciting evening of food and fellowship. Look for invitations in your mailbox during the month of December.

Central Region Youth Deer Hunt 2011

Once again MDC partnered with Missouri Whitetails.Com (MWT) for a managed youth deer hunt on November 5-6 at the Charles Green Conservation Area in Boone County. Five youth, three boys and two girls, each with a parent joined experienced mentors from MWT and MDC Outdoor Skills Specialists' Rob Garver and Brian Flowers for an enjoyable deer hunt.

Staff and volunteers set up blinds and stands along with a full deer camp where the participants camped out and ate like kings all weekend. We're happy to report that all five kids took a deer over the course of the weekend. The importance of having good volunteers can't be overstated. We would like to thank MWT members Tony Hancock, Matt Farris, and Alex Gibbs for assisting the kids as well as Protection Volunteer Brian Ridgeway. The hunt wouldn't have been a success without the great help from these individuals.



Hannah Morse and her mom with her doe taken on the second morning of the hunt. Protection Volunteer Brian Ridgeway mentored Hannah during her hunt.



Alex Weaver with his mentor Tony Hancock of Missouri Whitetails and his 6 pt. buck taken on the final evening of the hunt.



Youth Hunter Ryan Andrews from Ashland, MO with his button buck taken on the first day of the hunt.



Northeast Region

Outdoor Skills Specialist
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Greeting instructors, I hope you all had a safe and fulfilling hunting season. Thank you for all of your hard work this Hunter Ed season. It's nice to have a great group of volunteers that give their time for such a good cause. As some of you may know the Hunter Education program has undergone intense review, and we should be seeing some changes for the better in the upcoming year. I know, some of you are like

me and think change is bad, but I am confident in the review committee and I believe we will like their decisions.

At this time I have a tentative date for the instructor banquet, set for March 31st. Mark your calendars with a question mark and I will be sending you invitations with the details in the near future. We had a “Blast” at last year’s banquet with great food and trap shooting, and I would like to see more of your faces this year.

We will be getting new gun kits for the upcoming spring Hunter Ed season. Five new kits will be placed throughout the region and many of the old kits that are in sad shape will be retired. Be sure to let me or your agent know plenty in advance when you need the kits, tests, books, etc. so that we make sure you have everything you need. We had many classes this year end up on the same date, so to spread things out a bit, give me a call before you set up your class and we can work together to solve this issue.



This year’s youth dove hunt was held at Locust Creek Conservation Area. The kids harvested several doves and had a great time. Until next time, stay safe and happy hunting!



Northwest Region

Outdoor Skills Specialist
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Fall finally arrived and things were quite busy here in Northwest region. I filled orders like crazy for hunter education materials requested by volunteer instructors and school teachers, made numerous school visits, as well as visits to hunter education classes. Once again we had to conduct our last two fall classes on the campus of Missouri Western State University due to large class size. I would like to say thank you to all the Hunter Education instructors for all the hard work and dedication that make this program the great one that it is. I would like to thank the clerical staff at the Northwest regional office for their help during this busy time. They were very instrumental in helping the public out with the online registration system. Also, many thanks to the conservation agents for their hard work in providing support for this program.

Earlier this fall several new hunter education instructors were certified. They are Catherine Gaune, David Carter, Casey Long, Jaymes, Hall, Benjamin Greene, Caitlin Schulte, Travis Henry, and Virginia Williams. Welcome new instructors!

The highlight since the last newsletter occurred on Saturday September 3rd. Volunteer Hunter Education Instructors Jeremy and Jerrod Cosgrove, Bradley Gardner, Brent Urton along with Conservation agents Jake Strozewski, Vince Crawford, and Marc Bagley and myself conducted a youth Dove hunting clinic at Poosey Conservation area in Livingston County.

The clinic began on Friday evening with a firearms safety briefing along with some shotgun shooting and dove hunting information. Then Saturday the fun really began. We had fifteen youth attend shooting 110 doves. Many of the kids shot between eight to ten birds and three limited out. For some of the kids this was their first time hunting. And after the clinic was officially over, several of the kids and their parents stayed and hunted. A big thank you goes out to the Forestry staff at Poosey for an excellent dove field. It was a great experience for everyone involved.



Ozark Region

Outdoor Skills Specialist

Larry Lindeman

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This winter, don't let Cabin Fever into your life. I want to encourage our volunteer instructors and everyone with reasonably good health to find a way to get outdoors and enjoy what Missouri has to offer even during the winter months and colder weather. Just like we teach in the Hunter Education Classes, all one has to do is to go prepared by dressing for the colder weather, as well as for comfort. One of the most important items will be warm, dry, preferably insulated footwear.

There's plenty of outdoor activities out there to enjoy even when one is not hunting. A winter-time nature hike is always a possibility and sometime a convenient way to gather information that will likely make next year's hunt more successful.

Since I live in southern Missouri, the ice on our ponds and lakes seldom gets thick enough to safely ice fish, but our rivers here in the Ozark Region can be floated during the winter months. In fact, two of my most memorable floats were taken one in December, the other in early February each just after a freshly fallen snow. The scenery was unsurpassed, the acoustics from all the snow made it eerily quiet, and the icicles hanging from the bluffs presented a far different atmosphere than a typical summertime float trip.

Visibility normally obscured by the leaves in the warmer months no longer presents a problem and each trip I have taken provided many opportunities to see several species of wildlife.

Should you plan on a cold weather float trip on one of our streams, I would suggest a short trip no more than a couple of hours if possible and it'd be a good idea to wear either chest waders or hip boots. Plan on safely walking the canoe through any shoals or potentially treacherous areas, and a water tight container containing waterproof matches, fire starting material and of course a change of dry clothes could really come in handy should the waders leak or an accidental tipping unfold.

It's much better to err on the side of safety, and just like hunting, notifying friends and relatives of your "float plan" should be mandatory and, above all, pay close attention to the weather forecast. Stay in if the temperature will reach dangerous lows or if it's too windy. A hot thermos of coffee, tea or cocoa will often times be greatly appreciated.

Keep your eyes and ears open, bundle up, be warm, enjoy the holidays and have a safe, prosperous new year...and don't forget the camera...remember it's okay to "keep them pointed in a safe direction" too.



Andy Dalton Range & Outdoor Education Center

Outdoor Education Center Supervisor

Mike Brooks

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As 2011 comes to a close I always like to reflect back on all of the many things I have to be thankful for and near the top of the list is the dedicated Hunter Education Instructors we work with in Southwest Missouri. I know we can rely on them to take care of Hunter's Education but many are willing to go above and beyond by assisting in our hunting, shooting and school programs at the range. Many of the Instructors are more available during the week, making them especially helpful, since that is when a great deal of the programming takes place at the range.

I am proud to say I have each of you as colleagues and many of you as friends and look forward to meeting the new folks who also are following a dream of their own to share their knowledge, skills and passion about hunting safely. I hope that during the holiday season you were able to take time to reflect back on why you too chose to get involved and spend some time with those you hunt with and care about.

I always like to reflect back on why I first became involved in Hunter's Education. It is a reality check for me to think that I have now been an Instructor for 15 years. I think about all of the good things that I have seen happen throughout the

years and know that because of people like all of you we will continue to be witness to many great things for conservation well into the future.

The 75th Anniversary of the Missouri Department of Conservation is well underway and it is an exciting time to be involved with your conservation efforts. Looking forward into 2012 we will be hosting many of the same programs we have done in the past like the Day at the Range event for persons with disabilities on June 16. Great Outdoors Day, our celebration of National Hunting and Fishing Day will happen again on September 22 and we will again have a deer and turkey hunt for people with disabilities. The youth and women's dove clinic and hunt continue to be popular and we always fill the youth and women's pheasant hunting clinics, and taxidermy programs.

Ponder this. Instead of thinking you are giving something back for all of the opportunities you have had while hunting, fishing, and enjoying nature, realize that you are actually paying our debt forward so that future generations will have the same opportunity for the enjoyment of nature that we have experienced throughout our lifetime.



Henges Range & Outdoor Ed Center

Outdoor Education Center Supervisor
Jake Hindman
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Wow! What a year 2011 has been! I am looking forward to an eventful 2012 as well. The Henges rifle/pistol range landed back on firm footing after being closed for 10 months and reopening in the fall of 2010. A combination of the new rifle/pistol range, the addition of highway signs and other marketing efforts made 2011 a year that will be hard to beat for the Henges range.

Come out to the range sometime to see some of the latest additions to our facility including a hunter education corner in the NW corner of the Henges Education Center. The hunter education corner includes 2 half body whitetail mounts, a rustic fence, Ozark habitat and a tree with treestands attached. This hunter education corner will provide tremendous opportunities to teach hunting safety.

For a list of programs for upcoming months please visit our website at www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/ranges/henges. In addition to upcoming programs, we have scheduled the third annual St. Louis Region Range Volunteer Appreciation Banquet for January 27, 2012. All Busch and Henges range volunteers are invited.

I urge you to take a first timer out hunting or just exploring nature, and mentor them along the way, you will be glad you did.



Busch Range & Outdoor Ed Center

Outdoor Education Center Supervisor
Eric Edwards
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Please feel free to contact me about attending any of the courses as either a student or as an MDC volunteer. We are always looking for some extra help.

January

- 3 – 5 Hunter Education Class 5:30-9:30
- 11 Discover Hunting; Rabbit Hunting Clinic 6-8
- 18 Discover Hunting; Predator Hunting Clinic 6-8
- 21 Discover Hunting; Map and Compass 9-12

February

- 7 – 9 Hunter Education Class 5:30-9:30 pm all three nights.
- 16 & 8 Women's Pheasant Clinic and Hunt
- 22, 23, & 25 Basic Handgun

March

- 12 & 13 Hunter Education Field Day 6-9
- 14 Shotgun Reloading 6-9
- 14, 15, & 17 Basic Shotgun
- 28 Discover Hunting; Turkey Hunting Seminar 6-8

April

- 3, 4, & 5 Hunter Education Class 5:30-9:30
- 11 Shotgun Patterning 6-9
- 25 & 26 Basic Skeet Class

For a complete listing of all of the range programs check out our web page at www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/ranges/busch



Lake City Range & Outdoor Education Center

Outdoor Education Center Supervisor
Steven Elliott
steven.elliott@mdc.mo.gov



January

- 21 Discover Nature Families: Introduction to Skeet Shooting, 9 - 12
- 29 Discover Nature Families: Family Trap Shooting, 9:30 – 11:30
- 28 Woodcarving 101, 9 - 1

February

- 4 Build a Bluebird House 9:00–11:30
- 8 – 10 Hunter Education Class 6 - 10

21 – 22 Fly Tying 6 – 9

25 NRA First Steps – Pistol 9 – 11

March

2 NRA Home Firearm Safety 9 -12

7 Beginning Archery 9 -11

17 Discover Hunting: Women's Firearm Safety Part.I 8-11:30

23 – 24 Introduction to Shotgun Reloading, 6 – 8:30 & 9 – 10:30

April

5 Discover Hunting: Introduction to Turkey Hunting 6 - 9

7 What You Don't Know About Bullets...10 -12

Carroll Pilant, Ballistic Expert and Promotion Manager of Sierra Bullet will be at Lake City to talk about bullet manufacturing, ballistics, hunting, sport shooting, and many other aspects of shooting. Carroll is a long range competitive shooter in both long gun and handgun competitions. He has won several national titles in long distance competition over the years.

21 Discover Hunting: Women's Firearm Safety Part.I 8 - 11:30

12 - 14 Discover Hunting-Families Rabbit Hunting Clinic and Hunt

18 Wild Game Cooking

26 Ice Fishing Seminar

28 Basic Archery

February

2 Crow Hunting Seminar

4 Introduction to Handgun

13 HOLIDAY-RANGE CLOSED

18 Post Season Deer Scouting

19 Winter Tree ID

20 HOLIDAY-RANGE CLOSED

25 Shed Antler Hunting

March

2 - 3 Hunter Education Class

6 - 8 Hunter Education Class

10 Bowhunter Education Class

14 Walleye Fishing Seminar

18 Intro to Firearms

24 Wild Turkey Hunting Workshop

April

3 - 5 Hunter Education Class

10 - 11 Bowhunter Education Class


13 - 14 Hunter Education Class

19 Basic Archery

21 Intro to Firearms

25 Crappie Fishing Seminar

Remember this schedule is subject to change. Visit our website at www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/ranges/parma for a full listing of classes and seminars or to get more info. Get out and enjoy the cold weather and until the next time, Hunt Safe.



Parma Woods Range & Outdoor Ed Center

Outdoor Education Center Supervisor
Nathan Woodland
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Since our last newsletter there have been a number changes. The first and most important of them being in November we celebrated 10 years. It doesn't seem like we've been around that long, but the numbers don't lie. We sure have come a long ways, and we seem to be growing every year. In our last fiscal year we served more than 28,000. Before you know it, we'll be like the McDonald's sign, 1 Billion Served.

In other notable news we have recently experienced some staff turnover. I would like to thank everyone who helped us get through some rough times in December. Hopefully we will be up and running at full speed when you receive this. We will be reducing our class schedule a bit while we rebuild our staff, but still have a complete line up of educational opportunities that will fit your needs. Selected classes listed below. If you have any questions, just let me know.

January

1 HOLIDAY-RANGE CLOSED

Final Farewell's

As of the writing of this newsletter, there has been a passing of two long time instructors and friends from our cadre.

Long time Hunter Education and one of our initial Bowhunter Education Instructors and Lifetime award recipient James (Jim) Alford from St. Charles county in the St. Louis Region.

Long time Hunter and Bowhunter Education Instructor James (Jim) Hirsch, Sr. from Marion county in the Northeast Region. Jim was also an instructor for Illinois Hunter Education Program.

State Hunter/Bowhunter Education Instructor Conference Back at the Lake

As before the Missouri State Hunter/Bowhunter Education Instructor Conference has been moved back to the Lake of the Ozarks. Dates for the conference are February 24, 2012 thru February 26, 2012 at the Inn at Grand Glaize, Osage Beach. Hosted by the Missouri Hunter Education Instructor Association and supported by MDC this looks to be a great conference for all instructors.

The event kicks off Friday night with the traditional Meet & Greet mixer to allow instructors to catch up on things and see those from other parts of the state. Saturday will be a day of speakers and presentations including MDC Biologist Lonnie Hanson on the Missouri Elk Project and MDC Biologist Jeff Beringer on the Missouri Black Bear Studies along with additional programs for all, along with our annual awards luncheon. Sunday morning will be presentations on 2011 hunting incidents by each investigating Conservation Officer involved in those presented and the Hunter Education Coordinator Tony Legg, who is also the Chairman of the Hunting Incident Review Committee for MDC.

For your conference registration form contact your Regional Director or Tony Legg, it should be posted on the MHEIA web site at <http://www.mohuntered.com/>.

Your hotel reservations should be made directly with The Inn at Grand Glaize preferably by January 25, 2012. Please call them @ : 1-800-348-4731 or 573-348-4731 or you can make reservations online @ www.innatgrandglaize.com. Please be sure to use code MHEIA12 to get the special rate!

MHEIA FUNDRAISER RAFFLE

We will be holding a raffle for 15 guns this year. Tickets are available from your Regional Director, Deputy Director or Hunter Education Coordinator Tony Legg. Tickets are be \$20 each. We will draw for all firearms at the 2012 Conference. We will draw three firearms on Friday night, nine firearms on Saturday, and three firearms on Sunday Morning. This is just \$1.33 per chance at 15 firearms only a limited number of the 1,000 tickets remain!!!!

As last year, if your ticket is drawn and you win, your ticket goes right back in the drawing for the rest of the drawings.

This is the listing of firearms in the raffle:

1. Remington 870 Nitro Mag 12 ga. #G82503
2. Henry Golden Boy H004 .22 cal
3. Browning BPS 12 ga. #G012211305
4. Savage/Stevens 12 ga. O/U #G18309
5. Remington 870 Sportsman 12 ga. #G82104
6. Marlin XL7W 30-06 Rifle
7. Mossberg 30/30 Lever Action #G41010
8. Savage 30-06 Rifle D/T Mag #17841
9. Remington 700 243 cal. Camo #G84170

10. Remington .22 cal model 552 semi-auto #25594
11. Remington 870 Sportsman 12 ga. #G82104
12. Browning BPS 12 ga. #G012211305
13. Remington 700 SPS 30-06 Black SYN #G7363
14. Henry Golden Boy H004 .22 cal
15. Mossberg 930 Waterfowl #G85128 12 ga. BLK SYN

Winners subject to federal firearm sale requirements In the event item is not available, we reserve the right to substitute with similar item of equal value.

OFFICERS:

President: Jim Robertson
Vice-President: Tim Moore
Secretary: Jerry Bryant
Treasurer: Don Harris

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Northwest:	John Bernal	913-558-4442
Ozark:	Jerry Bryant	816-630-8283
Saint Louis:	Robert Mallory	636-463-1380
Southeast:	Rick Presnell	573-547-5742
Southwest:	Don Harris	417-862-8611

Conservation Commission sets 2012 deer, turkey regulations

Next year's youth spring turkey hunt will be earlier than usual.

JEFFERSON CITY—Hunters can start planning for next year's turkey and deer seasons, thanks to recent actions by the Missouri Conservation Commission.

At its Dec. 15 meeting in Jefferson City, the Commission approved 2012 turkey-hunting regulations similar to 2011. The regular spring turkey season will run from April 16 through May 6. The fall firearms turkey season will run from Oct. 1 through 31.

The 2012 youth spring turkey season will take place the weekend of March 31 and April 1. In most years, the youth season opens nine days before the opening day of the regular spring turkey season. However, the season framework shifts the youth season one week earlier in years when the usual timing would cause the youth season to overlap Easter.

Limits, shooting hours and other turkey-hunting regulations remain unchanged from 2011 and will be published in guide books before hunting seasons.

The Commission also set Nov. 10 as opening day for the November portion of firearms deer season. The Commission will set opening dates for the urban, youth, antlerless and muzzleloader portions and other regulations for the 2012 deer season at its May meeting. These will be available in the 2012 Fall Deer and Turkey Hunting Regulations and Information booklet in July.

INSTRUCTOR DISCOUNTS

IHEA has a central web page that lists discount offers to instructors. This webpage can be found at <http://www.ihea.com/instructors/special-offers-for-instructors.php>, or go to www.ihea.com, click the Instructors tab on the green bar, then click Special Offers For Instructors.

You don't have to be a member of IHEA (although it is encouraged) to receive a discount. All instructors qualify, but the vendor will require that they provide current documentation/instructor card to prove that they are currently a state certified HE instructor.

Username: instructor

Password: gohunt

Just some of the companies currently listed:

Alpen Optics Discount Offer
 ATSKO
 Battenfeld Technologies Inc
 Bayco Night Stick Pro
 Beretta Special Offer
 Boss Head-Lite
 Buck Knives Special Offer
 Burris Company Optics Discount
 Cartridge Comparison Poster
 Crooked Horn Outfitters
 CVA
 CZ-USA
 Field Logic Discount
 Gun Safety Innovations
 Henry Repeating Arms Company
 Hunter Rescue of Lewis Products Inc
 Hunter Safety System
 Lacrosse Footwear
 Leupold
 Liberty Archery
 Lyman Products
 M2D Camo
 Midsouth Photographic Specialties Targets
 Mission by Mathews
 Montana Decoy Inc.
 Mountaineer Sports Rescue One CDS
 Muddy Outdoors
 Otis Firearms Training Program
 Outdoor Edge Cutlery
 Peregrine Field Gear
 Primos
 Promatic Clay Pigeon Traps
 Ready Dog
 Robinson Outdoor Products
 Ruger Instructor Purchase Program
 Savage Arms
 Shoot Thru Scope Covers
 Smith & Wesson Instructor Discount
 Southern Safety Corporation Survival Kits
 SPOT Satellite Tracking Offer
 Summit Treestands, LLC.
 Swift Optics Discounts

ThermaCELL Rebate
 Third Hand Archery and Gun Hoist
 Tri-Tronics
 Trophy Bag Cooler LLC
 Truck Vault Offer
 Ultrec Shooting Sticks
 Waynes Wicked Ent.
 Zeiss

Our New Instructors for Hunter Education and Bowhunter Education Courses.

Welcome New Instructors!

(Aug 2011 - Nov 2011)

These new instructors have completed their training, "First Course" mentorship teaching certification, background checks, and are ready to teach and start accruing hours. So all you senior instructors out there, be the great mentors we know you are. Get with your OSS and make contact with these folks and get them involved now. If you recognize any of these folks who might live near you, please give them a call and ask if you can help them get started. Remember, it is always appreciated when you lend a helping hand.

Central Region

Callaway County

James Lewellen - HE

Cooper County

Frederick Grunden - HE

Moniteau County

John Muri - HE

Kansas City Region

Clay County

Steven Jacobsen - HE

Northeast Region

Monroe County

Donald Fowler - HE

Northwest Region

Nodaway County

Ricky Maudlin - HE

Ozark Region

Pulaski County

Brian Becker - HE

Zachary Collison - HE

Matthew Morgart - HE

Texas County

Josh Coomer - HE

Southeast Region

Bollinger County

Josiah Davault - HE

Butler County

Scott Clark - HE

Cape Girardeau County

Chelsea Garrett - HE

Landon Haggett - HE

Matthew Isaacs - HE

Kelly Miller - HE

David Welker - HE

Southwest Region

Barry County

Joshua Hughes - HE

Kevin Schlessman - HE

Timothy Smith - BHE

Robert Yearsley - BHE

Christian County

Jordan Ellis - HE

Greene County

Melissa Bueker - HE

Donald Carter - HE

Sue Dyle - HE

Todd Riggins - BHE

Jasper County

Jason Cutler - HE

Newton County

Kelin Kruse - HE

Polk County

Gerald Whistance - BHE

St. Louis Region

St. Charles County

Karl Arrington - HE

Michael Butler - HE

Scott Clynes - HE

Dennis Grooms - HE

Walter Scott - HE

St. Louis County

Monica Coffey - HE

Ryan Westcott - HE

James Worth - HE

NORTH AMERICAN MODEL OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

Best effort to conserve and manage wildlife that the world has ever seen.



- Wildlife is Held in Public Trust
- Eliminating Commerce in Dead Wildlife
- Allocating Wildlife Use Through Law
- Hunting Opportunity for All
- Wildlife May be Killed Only for Legitimate Reasons
- Wildlife is an International Resource
- Science is the Basis for Wildlife Policy

"The nation behaves well if it treats the natural resources as assets which it must turn over to the next generation increased, and not impaired, in value." — Theodore Roosevelt